

# SOMALIA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2016

DECEMBER 23, 2015

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**4.9 million**

Somalis in Need of Humanitarian Assistance  
FSNAU – December 2015

**1 million**

Somalis Experiencing Crisis or Emergency Levels of Acute Food Insecurity  
FSNAU – December 2015

**1.1 million**

IDPs in Somalia  
UNHCR – December 2015

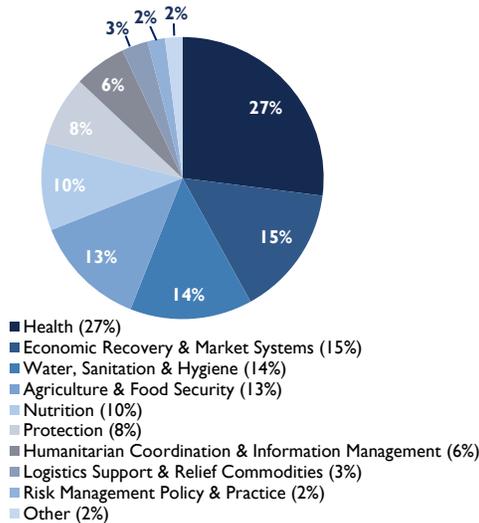
**973,751**

Somali Refugees in Neighboring Countries  
UNHCR – December 2015

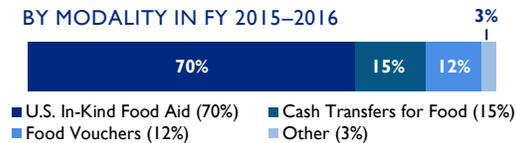
**419,342**

Somali Refugees in Kenya  
UNHCR – December 2015

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2015–2016



## USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2015–2016



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Flooding affects more than 145,000 people
- November clashes in Galkayo reportedly displace up to 90,000 people
- USAID assesses programs and humanitarian needs in Somalia

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR SOMALIA IN FY 2015–2016

USAID/OFDA	\$52,028,621
USAID/FFP	\$127,557,423
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$39,100,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$218,686,044</b>
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR THE SOMALIA RESPONSE	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Average to above-average October-to-December *deyr* rainfall—associated with the El Niño climatic event—is expected to result in increased livestock production and a near-average to average 2016 January/February *deyr* harvest, moderately improving food security in southern Somalia between January and March 2016, according to the USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) and the UN Food Security and Nutritional Analysis Unit for Somalia (FSNAU).
- From October to December, flash flooding generated by the heavy *deyr* rains across parts of northern and south-central Somalia affected more than 145,000 people and temporarily displaced approximately 60,000 people, according to the UN.
- On October 8, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., David H. Kaeuper re-declared a disaster for FY 2016 due to ongoing and projected humanitarian needs in Somalia.

<sup>1</sup> USAID’s Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID’s Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## CURRENT EVENTS

- Between October and December, El Niño-associated heavy rainfall in Somalia and the Ethiopian highlands—significant catchment areas for the Juba and Shabelle rivers—generated flash floods in low-lying and riverine areas of northern and south-central Somalia. As of early December, the flooding had affected more than 145,000 people, especially populations in Somalia’s Hiran, Lower Juba, Middle Juba, and Middle Shabelle regions, and displaced nearly 60,000 people, the UN reported. In early October, the UN projected that El Niño-related flooding could affect between 500,000 and 900,000 people in Somalia through early 2016.
- The humanitarian community in Somalia, led by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), continues to respond to El Niño-associated impacts across the country, utilizing a comprehensive preparedness and response strategy. USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) has pre-positioned and distributed food stocks to flood-affected populations, while other USAID/FFP partners have supported cash-for-work projects—including fortifying low-lying river embankments and repairing river breakages—in flood-prone areas.
- Following October and November flooding, relief actors supported water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions to reduce the risk of disease outbreaks in affected areas, according to the UN. Humanitarian organizations constructed nearly 150 latrines sufficient for more than 3,000 people in Lower Shabelle Region’s Doble town, while the WASH Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian WASH activities, comprising UN agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other stakeholders—undertook hygiene awareness activities in flood-affected areas, such as providing information on water treatment, and distributed 4,800 hygiene kits benefiting nearly 28,800 people in central and southern Somalia.
- The U.S. Government (USG), including USAID/OFDA and USAID/FFP, continues to monitor the humanitarian situation in Somalia and support the Federal Government of Somalia (FGoS), relief actors, and impacted communities to mitigate the effects of El Niño-associated flooding across the country.

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## INSECURITY, HUMANITARIAN ACCESS, AND DISPLACEMENT

- In late November, regional security forces clashed near Mudug Region’s Galkayo town, reportedly due to a territorial dispute, according to international media. The fighting resulted in at least 20 deaths, injured an estimated 120 people, and reportedly displaced approximately 90,000 people—including 40,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs)—from Galkayo, the UN reported. Following the clashes, at least 20,000 IDPs from Galkayo relocated to the Cagaaran, Halaboqat, Medina Munawara, Salama, and Tawakal IDP sites, while another 20,000 IDPs fled to neighboring Harar and Hiran towns, according to the UN. The fighting has affected basic service provision in Galkayo, as the town’s two main hospitals are under-staffed due to personnel fleeing the clashes. On November 29, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Somalia Nicholas Kay condemned the attacks, calling on local leadership to work with the FGoS to resolve peacefully the situation.
- As of early December, the insecurity continued to pose humanitarian challenges, particularly for IDPs. The UN reported that food, health, shelter, and protection were priority needs among populations affected by the recent clashes in Mudug. In response, humanitarian agencies provided life-saving assistance to IDPs in Galkayo; in particular, health actors provided emergency supplies to the two hospitals and distributed essential medicines to six nearby health facilities. In addition, health actors established a temporary health facility in southern Galkayo to assist new IDPs, while relief actors were operating mobile health units to support up to 20,000 displaced people in northern Galkayo. Nutrition partners reported three-month stocks of nutrition supplies sufficient for up to 30,000 children younger than five years of age. WASH partners were improving access to safe drinking water for IDPs and host communities and distributed hygiene kits, soap, and other WASH items to affected households, according to the UN.
- As of December 13, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) had assisted the return of more than 6,100 Somali refugees in Kenya to Somalia through its voluntary refugee repatriation program. The majority of returnees have settled in Banadir Region’s Mogadishu city, Bay Region’s Baidoa town, and Lower Juba Region’s Kismayo town, according to UNHCR. Following the 2013 tripartite agreement between the Government of Kenya,

FGoS, and UNHCR, voluntary returns from Kenya began in December 2014 with a goal of returning 215,000 refugees to Somalia by 2019.

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## FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- In southern Somalia, the average to above-average 2015 *deyr* rains have positively affected crop production and livestock conditions, improved the availability of pasture and water, and will likely result in a near-average to average 2016 January/February *deyr* harvest in most of southern Somalia, according to FEWS NET. Food security is expected to improve moderately in most of the country between January and March 2016, with populations in some pastoral areas of northern and southern Somalia improving to Minimal—IPC 1—levels of food insecurity during this period.<sup>4</sup>
  - Populations in riverine areas of Middle Shabelle, however, will likely continue to experience Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity through December 2015 due to heavy rains associated with El Niño. The heavy rainfall delayed planting, destroyed fields, and obstructed access to markets. In addition, despite moderate rainfall in October and November, low-income households in northwestern Somalia’s Guban Pastoral livelihood zone—encompassing northern parts of Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed regions—will likely continue to experience Crisis-level food insecurity through March 2016 due to dry conditions through most of 2014 and 2015. FEWS NET reported that the recent dry conditions resulted in poor livestock production, reduced incomes caused by low livestock values, and atypical livestock losses.
  - Seasonal food security and nutrition assessments in Somalia previously used the UN Development Program (UNDP) 2005 national population estimate of 7.5 million people to calculate the food-insecure population. However, assessments are beginning to utilize UN Population Fund (UNFPA) population estimates from 2014, which indicate an increased countrywide population of approximately 12.3 million people. In early November, FSNAU released a report updating the 2015 post-*gu* seasonal assessments based on the updated UNFPA population estimates. According to the revised assessment, more than 1 million people in Somalia are expected to experience Crisis or Emergency—IPC 3 or 4—levels of food insecurity through December 2015, an approximate 19 percent increase from the 855,000 people calculated using the 2005 UNDP population estimates. In addition, the revised assessment indicates that an additional 3.9 million people will experience Stressed—IPC 2—levels of food insecurity through December 2015, an approximate 72 percent increase compared to previous estimates.
  - In October, USAID/FFP provided more than \$14 million to WFP to support the distribution of approximately 7,600 metric tons (MT) of emergency food assistance to food-insecure households in Somalia, the majority of whom are IDPs. WFP plans to use the food commodities for numerous nutrition and livelihood interventions, including providing hot meals to food-insecure populations in Kismayo and Mogadishu, as well as facilitating food-for-assets activities, which address immediate household food gaps and improve community resilience, in other areas.
  - In FY 2015 and to date in FY 2016, USAID/FFP has provided nearly \$128 million in food and nutrition assistance—including in-kind commodities and cash and voucher programs—through the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), WFP, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and NGOs across Somalia.
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## USG ASSESSMENTS

- From November 22 to 24, USAID/OFDA and USAID/FFP staff traveled to northwestern Somalia and met with local government officials and partners in Hargeisa town, Woqooyi Galbeed, to assess ongoing relief programs and discuss humanitarian priorities. During the visit, the representatives visited an IDP camp, WFP food storage sites, a vocational training center for women, and a therapeutic feeding center for malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women. The visit marked the first USAID/OFDA and USAID/FFP monitoring trip to Somalia since 2012—insecurity restricted previous travel to Somalia.

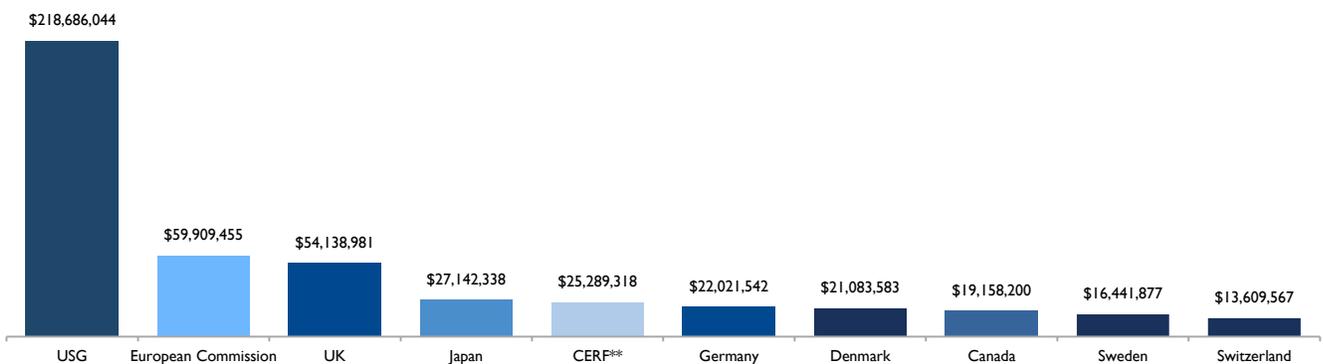
<sup>4</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

- During the visit, humanitarian actors stressed the risk of recurrent drought in northern Somalia, which may exacerbate acute food insecurity and increase population displacement. While the onset of the *deyr* rains in October moderately improved the humanitarian situation in the area, relief actors remain concerned about vulnerable populations in drought-affected areas. USAID/FFP partner WFP is providing three months of emergency food assistance to approximately 60,000 drought-affected people in northern Somalia, and FAO plans to launch cash-for-work activities in affected areas in the coming months. A USAID/OFDA partner is currently assessing humanitarian needs among affected populations in parts of Awdal.

## HEALTH AND NUTRITION

- On October 22, the UN World Health Organization (WHO) declared the end of Somalia’s 2013–2014 polio outbreak, following no new reported cases of polio in the country for 14 months. The outbreak—which began in May 2013—affected nearly 200 people, most of whom were children. During the outbreak, WHO and other health actors targeted more than 2.1 million children younger than five years of age in multiple mass immunization campaigns. The FGoS plans to continue coordinating large-scale vaccination campaigns in the coming months, given that Somalia remains at high risk of another polio outbreak due to frequent population movements, low vaccination coverage, and the continuing transmission of polio in other high-risk countries.
- FSNAU recently assessed the nutritional status of children ages five years and younger and mortality rates among populations residing in 13 IDP sites across Somalia. In total, FSNAU assessed nearly 5,500 households and more than 8,500 children. Findings revealed incidence of global acute malnutrition exceeding the UN emergency threshold of 15 percent in four IDP sites—an approximately 25 percent prevalence in Dolow, Gedo Region; a nearly 20 percent prevalence in Garowe, Nugal Region; a nearly 17 percent prevalence in Bossaso, Bari Region; and a more than 16 percent prevalence in Galkayo. Furthermore, FSNAU reported that eight IDP sites surveyed had a severe acute malnutrition prevalence exceeding the UN emergency threshold of 2 percent—Baidoa, Bossaso, Doble, Dolow, Garowe, Hargeisa, Kismayo, and Mogadishu.
- During FY 2015, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$5.4 million to support nutrition programs in Somalia. USAID/OFDA support included \$3 million to assist UNICEF’s nutrition interventions, such as procurement of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF), nutrition emergency preparedness planning, and management of acute malnutrition cases. USAID/FFP also provided \$4.4 million in FY 2015 to UNICEF for procuring 280 MT of RUTF.

### 2015 TOTAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING\* PER DONOR



\*Funding figures are as of December 23, 2015. All international figures are according to the OCHA Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the current calendar year, while USG figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments for both FY 2015 and FY 2016, which began on October 1, 2014, and October 1, 2015, respectively.

\*\*Central Emergency Response Funding (CERF)—a pooled humanitarian fund established and managed by the UN to support underfunded emergencies.

## CONTEXT

- Since 1991, Somalia has experienced a persistent complex emergency due to chronic food insecurity, widespread violence, and recurrent droughts and floods. The 2011 drought—widely regarded as the country’s worst in 60 years—severely reduced food security among pastoralists and populations in marginal farming areas, resulting in famine in areas of Bay, Bakool, and Lower and Middle Shabelle regions, as well as among IDPs in Mogadishu and the nearby Afgooye corridor.
- Despite modest improvements in 2014 and 2015, malnutrition rates in Somalia remain among the highest in the world, and ongoing insecurity in the country—particularly in areas that lack established local authorities and where al Shabaab is present—contributes to the complex emergency. Sustained life-saving humanitarian assistance, coupled with interventions aimed at protecting livelihoods and building resilience, is critical to help vulnerable households meet basic needs, reduce malnutrition, and protect livelihoods.
- Due to ongoing and anticipated humanitarian needs, on October 8, 2015, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., David H. Kaeuper renewed the disaster declaration for the complex emergency in Somalia for FY 2016.

### USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR SOMALIA PROVIDED IN FY 2015–2016<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
Implementing Partners	Agriculture and Food Security; Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS); Health; Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management; Logistics Support and Relief Commodities; Natural and Technological Risks; Nutrition; Protection; Risk Management Policy and Practice; WASH	Countrywide	\$52,028,621
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$52,028,621</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup></b>			
WFP and Implementing Partners	48,320 MT of In-Kind Emergency Food Assistance for Relief, Nutrition, Safety Net, and Livelihoods Activities; Cash Assistance and Food Vouchers	Countrywide	\$127,557,423
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$127,557,423</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
International Humanitarian Organizations	Multi-Sector Protection and Assistance Activities to Aid Refugees, IDPs, and Conflict-Affected People	Countrywide	\$39,100,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE</b>			<b>\$39,100,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR SOMALIA IN FY 2015–2016</b>			<b>\$218,686,044</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as December 23, 2015.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance.

## **PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION**

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at  
<http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>